

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 02598 01 OF 02 301355Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 SSO-00 /018 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4736

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 NDJAMENA 2598

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CLASSIFIED LOU)

SCA FOR WATSON, AF FOR MOOSE FROM AMBASSADOR BRADFORD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (TEOFANI)

SUBJ: DEATH CASE: FRANCIS GLEN TEOFANI

1. AT HIS INVITATION I SPENT TWO HOURS WITH J. JA. ARMES AND ASSOCIATES YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY ARMES TO SHOW ME QUOTE THE VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION UNQUOTE THEY HAD UNCOVERED. ACUTALLY, SUM TOTAL OF MEETING WAS THAT THERE WERE DISCREPANCIES IN THE PRESENT DEFENDANT' S STORIES, MOST OF WHICH WERE APPARENT SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. ALTHOUGH CONSPIRACY, INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUE, AND MASSIVE COVERUP WERE OFTEN ALLUDED TO, NO SUCH EVIDENCE WAS PRODUCED. ARMES SEEMS TO BELIEVE WOMAN NOW BEING HELD COMMITTED MURDER BUT FOR SOME DARK, UNEXPLAINED REASONS.

2. MEETING WAS A CONFUSED GARBLE OF BRAGGADOCIO, HALF TRUTHS AND UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, AT ONE POINT MR. ARMES STATED QUOTE
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PAGE 02 NDJAME 02598 01 OF 02 301355Z

TWO AMERICANS HAD BEEN KILLED UNQUOTE. WHEN I ASKED WAS HE ASSUMING THE EARLIER DEATH OF GENE MYERS HAD NOT BEEN FROM NATURAL CAUSES, HE REPLIED THAT HE HAD EVIDENCE THAT HE WAS POISONED AND THAT EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER HAD KNOWN ABOUT IT. I ASKED IF HE MEANT THE CONSULAR OFFICER HAD KNOWN THAT AN AMERICAN CITIZEN HAD BEEN

POISONED AND DID NOTHING ABOUT IT. ARMES IMMEDIATELY BACKED OFF AND SAID DOCTOR HAD TOLD CONSULAR OFFICER HE CONSIDERED SEQUENCE OF STROKES UNUSUAL.

3. ARMES BOASTED OF HAVING ENTRAPPED CHADIAN OFFICIALS IN LIES, AND OF HAVING REDUCED DEFENDANTS TO QUIVERING PERSONS WHO WOULD HAVE BROKEN IF CHADIAN OFFICIALS HAD NOT INTERVENED.

4. IN REPORTING ON JULY 29 MEETING (REF NDJAMENA 2590) ARMES TOOK THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE FENCE AND SAID CHADIANS WERE RUDE AND OBSTRUCTIVE. HE SAID HE COULD NOT QUESTION PRISONERS DIRECTLY BUT ONLY THROUGH JUDGE WHO ACUTALLY ANSWERED MOST QUESTIONS. THIS ALLEGATION IS NOT SUBSTANTIATED BY THREE EMBASSY PERSONNEL WHO WERE IN ATTENDANCE. THEY STATE THAT AT BEGINNING JUDGE INSISTED ALL QUESTIONS BE ADDRESSED TO HIM AND HE INDEED ANSWERED SOME, BUT THAT AFTER J.J. ARMES HAD OBJECTED VIOLENTLY THE JUDGE SAID ALL RIGHT, TALK TO THE PRISONER DIRECTLY, WHICH HE DID THROUGH EMBASSY INTERPERTER. IN SPEAKING OF THE PROJECTED CONTINUATION OF HIS QUESTIONING ON MONDAY, HE SAID IT WAS POINTLESS TO CONTINUE THIS QUOTE CHARADE UNQUOTE AND CASE WOULD NEVER BE SOLVED AS CHADIANS WERE COVERING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 NDJAME 02598 01 OF 02 301355Z

EVERYTHING UP. I POINTED OUT THAT FOR A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR OPERATING IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY, HE HAD RECEIVED UNBELIEVABLE COOPERATION. HE AGREED PARTIALLY, AND SAID THAT POLICE INSPECTOR HAD BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE BUT STILL FELT MINISTRY OF JUSTICE WAS COVERING UP. (IN RETURN FOR POLICE COOPERATION, MR. ARMES STATED HE WAS SENBKNG INSPECTOR ONE OF HIS INVESTIGATION COURSES AT NO COST.)

5. IN COVERING MEETING, ARMES SAID EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER HAD AT ONE POINT, WHILE INTERPRETINVN LOST HIS TEMPER AND TOLD HIM TO BE QUIET. CONSULAR OFFICER CONFIRMS THIS. INCIDENT, WHILE REGRETABLE, IS UNDERSTANDABLE AS NON-PROFESSIONAL INTERPRETER TRYING TO HANDLE 3 LAWYERS, 3 INVESTIGATORS, AND TWO DEFENDANTS IN CONFORNTATION IS UNDER CONSIDERABLE STRESS. DESPITE THIS, I HAVE APOLOGIZED TO ARMES. WHOLE MATTER OF INTERPRETERING AN INVESTIGATIVE LINE OF QUESTIONING IS UNDOUBTEDLY FURTHER CONFUSING AN ALREADY MURKEY SITUATION.

6. MR. ARMES SAID COLUMINST JACK ANDERSON HAD BEEN CALLING HIM CONTINUALLY FOR THE STORY BUT THAT HE WANTED TO WAIT AND GIVE HIS FULL REPORT TO HIS CLIENT BEFORE TALKING TO PRESS. HE SAID IN HIS OPINION ALL THAT COULD BE DONE NOW WAS A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION IN (SIC) CHAD WICH SHOULD RESULT IN THE TERMINATION OF ALL U.S. ASSISTANCE TO CHAD. I REFRAINED FROM COMMENT BUT PROMISED HIM RECENT PUBLIC AID FIGURES.

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 02598 02 OF 02 301130Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 SSO-00 /018 W
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O 301100Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4737

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 NDJAMENA 2598

7. WHEN I ASKED IF HE WISHED EMBASSY TO CANCEL THE MONDAY MEETING WITH DEFENDANT, HE SAID HE WOULD CALL ME JULY 30 AND LET ME KNOW; THAT HE HAD OTHER COMMITMENTS ELSEWHERE WHICH HE HAD TO WEIGH AGAINST WASTING TIME IN CHAD. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT SINCE THEIR ARRIVAL IN CHAD HE AND HIS ASSOCIATES HAD BEEN THREATENED, PUT UNDER SURVEILLANCE, HARRASSED, AND THAT A POISONOUS SNAKE HAD BEEN PLACEDIIN HIS ROOM (MR. ARMES' ASSOCIATE, MR. LAYTNER, EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS A VIPER THAT WAS SO POISONOUS THAT IF YOU TOUCHED IT EVEN AFTER IT WAS DEAD YOU TOO WOULD DIE.)

8. ARMES ALSO TOLD M THAT QUOTE OIL COMPANY UNQUOTE (HE MEANT PETTY RAY) HAD NOW REFUSED TO RETURN WITNESS, BRADY, FROM NIGER AND THAT LOCAL PETTY RAY MANATER HAD SAID THIS WAS BECUASE I ADVISED HIM IT WAS NOT NECESSARY. MR. ARMES ASSURED ME THAT HE KNEW I HADN'T SIAD ANY SUCH THINK. UPON LATER CHECKING WITH PETTY RAY MANAGER, HE DENIES EVER HAVING SAI I WAS INVOLVED IN DECISIONV COMPANY HAS DECIDED AGAINST RETURNING BRADY TO NDJAMENA,5 2#8:# 8 ?3)83;3 8 - .8 5-(3.

9.MR. ARMES REMAINED COURTEOUS IN HIS DEALINGS
WITH ME BUT HIS ASSISTANT LAYTNER INSITED IN POKING
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PAGE 02 NDJAME 02598 02 OF 02 301130Z

TAPE RECORDER UNDER MY NOSE AND, FTER TWO OR
THREE MINUTES OF GARBLED VOICES, IUMPHANTLY
STATING QUOTE WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT, MR.
AMBASSADOR UNQUOTE. ASNEARLY EVERYTHING WAS
DISTORTED AND TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT, IT COULD
HARDLY HAVE BEEN CONSIDRED MEANINGFUL. I SELDOM
THOUGHT ANYTHING ABOUT IT AT ALL. IN CONCLUSION,
MR. ARMES HAS PROMISED TO MEET WITH ME BEFORE HE
DEPARTS TO L VE ME LIST ALL DISCREPANCIES IN PRESENT CASE.

10. ENTIRE INLUTIGATION IS SO LUDICROUS THAT IT
WOULD BE FUNNY IF SUCH A SERIOUS CASE WITH THE POTENTIAL
FOR SO MUCH HARM BETWEEN CHADIAN AND AMERICAN
RELATIONS WERE NOT INVOLVED, AND IF THE BEREAVED
FATHER WAS NOT BEING CHARGED DOLLARS
100,000 (ARMES STATEMENT).

22. IT IS CLEAR THAT ARMES' INVESTIGATION IS NOT
GOING TO REVEAL ANYTHING EXCEPT DISCREPANCIES AND
INCONSISTENCIES IN THE PRESENT PRISONER'S STORIES.
MR. ARMES BELIEVES, OR WANTS OTHERS TO BELIEVE
THAT HIS INVESTIGATION WAS FRUITLESS BECAUSE OF
LACK OF CHADIAN COOPERATION, AND HE UNDOUBTEDLY
WILL STRESS THIS LINE IN ANY REPORTING THAT HE DOES
PRIVATELY OR PUBLICLY. DESPITE ALL OF THE NONSENSE
THAT HAS SURROUNDED HIS INVESTIGATION, IT DOES
CONFIRM OUR EARLIER VIEW THAT DISCREPANCIES RVAIN
AND I PTENT TO PUSH GOVERNMENT TO KEEP CASE FROM
BEING COMPLETED BEFORE THESE DISCREPANCIES
HAVE BEEN RE-INVESTIGATED AND IRONED OUT. BRADFORD

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